



HONGKONG TELEGRAPH  
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SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, LTD.

# The Hongkong Telegraph

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## DIPLOMATIC EFFORT TO SAVE KOREA TRUCE PLAN

### COMMENT

When, a few months ago, we challenged the action of the police in descending on Blake Pier and arresting thirty odd persons for loitering, in the best place for deriving the benefit of what breezes happened to blow, the protest was made in the public interest. The argument was that in this overpopulated city, infested with slum tenements, we had far too few open spaces, "lungs."

Apparently, though this fact escaped us, the police had no authority to make any round-up. Under the Pleasure Grounds and Bathing Places Regulation Ordinance, both Blake Pier and Queen's Pier were defined as places of public resort, and any person was entitled to parade without let or hindrance.

This has now been rectified. Police swoops on the piers have been legalised by an Order of the Governor-in-Council, deleting the names of Blake and Queen's Piers from the list of pleasure grounds.

Official explanation of the action is the need for preventing people wandering about the piers during the day and sleeping there at night. We are no closer to agreement with Government's viewpoint than we were during the summer. It is difficult to believe that the piers are so busy that thirty or forty strollers represent serious interference. We do know that the Colony has a population three times greater than 1936, the date of the Ordinance, and for that reason claims for breathing spaces demand increased respect.

What do we get? Alienation of Statue Square to provide a car park, elimination of two piers, and, above all, instead of providing adequate lighting in the Botanical Gardens, that one pleasing facility in the city zone is closed at dusk.

The allegation that a few persons were consorting there with women of the street had some warrant. But surely the answer was not to close the gardens at just the time when decent people could be free to stroll through the park, but to take steps to prevent indecency. The gardens, plus the new pier Order, suggest that the time has come for Government to submit their policy to re-examination.

## General Wu Getting Ready To Fly To Peking Tomorrow

New York, Dec. 17.

Diplomatic efforts to save the Korean truce proposals were proceeding at a high pitch—for a Sunday—today as General Wu Hsiu-chuan, the leader of the Peking delegation, prepared to fly back to his country within the next 48 hours.

Actually, General Wu's request to Mr Trygve Lie, the Secretary General of the United Nations, to make arrangements for his departure by air on Tuesday caused a number of United Nations diplomats to get together hurriedly to take stock of the position and see what could be done to obtain a postponement of General Wu's departure.

## NEW ETNA VIOLENCE EXPLODES

Catania, Dec. 17.  
Three thousand peasants, evacuated from villages on the slopes of Mount Etna, tonight began to lose hope of returning home for Christmas as the volcano exploded in a new violence after nearly a week of relative calm.

Thousands of tons of lava were running down the north-eastern side of the mountain on the bed formed by the hardened lava flung out earlier by the volcano in its 22-day eruption.

One tongue threatened tonight to cut the road linking the two villages of Milo and Rinazzo, which were evacuated two weeks ago. But the local authorities said that there was for the moment no danger to the two hamlets.

The volcano, the biggest in Europe, hurled vast masses of lava down its slopes during the first two weeks of its eruption, imminently threatening the two villages.

After engulfing 15 outlying cottages the eruption changed in nature, continuing to fling flaming ashes and steam into the air but producing little lava.

Experts of the Etna Volcanological Institute said it was impossible to judge whether this was "a last fling"—or whether the flow would overrun the line where the old lava stopped—only a few hundred yards from Milo and Rinazzo.—Reuters.

So far there has been no change in General Wu's plans to leave on Tuesday.

Hopes had not been given up, however, that the "interim report," which is to be submitted to the political Committee tomorrow by the three member cease-fire commission, might influence General Wu's mind.

General Wu has already distributed to the press the speech he had prepared for the Political Committee, but it was considered possible that if the body took up the Formosan question on Monday, General Wu might attend the meeting and even decide to stay on for a while.

There were no hard indications from any official source, however, that General Wu had plans to attend the meetings of the Committee.

Most newspapers today interpreted General Wu's statement at his press conference yesterday as a rejection of the cease-fire proposal.

### "NO AUTHORITY"

It was pointed out in official circles connected with the cease-fire talks, however, that from the outset General Wu had said that he had no authority to carry on cease-fire talks and that, therefore his statement need not necessarily mean a Peking rejection of the principle of a cease-fire.

What General Wu had attacked was in his own words, "the proposal of 'cease-fire first' in Korea, a proposal which met the approval of Mr Austin."

General Wu had put the words "cease-fire first" within quotes in his statement. Observers said that General Wu was clearly assailing the decision of the Asian group to split up its original composite resolution into two: cease-fire and discussion of the Far Eastern

## Jet Fighter Shot Down

Tokyo, Dec. 17.

A flight of four American jet fighters engaged four Russian-built MIG-15 jets across the northwest Korean border on Sunday and in the burst of fire one MIG was shot down in flames over Sinuiju. It was confirmed that the kill was credited to Lieut. Colonel Bruce Hinton. — United Press.

## PRICE AND WAGE FREEZE

Washington, Dec. 17.

A voluntary "freeze" of all prices and wages will be called for early this week by the United States Economic Stabilisation Agency, officials predicted today.

Having set the anti-inflation machinery in motion with yesterday's order imposing a ceiling on new car prices, the Economic Stabilisation Agency's Administrator, Mr Alan Valentine, gave every sign that he would keep up the process.

His next major move, officials said, would be to call for a nation-wide general voluntary ceiling on prices and wages. Adherence to this standard, probably fixed at the level of December 1 or some other recent date, will be requested of business firms, unions and the public.

This "freeze" will last only until March. By that time the Agency believes that it will be ready to administer an effective compulsory control system either on selected goods or on the whole economy.—Reuters.

## H.K. Not Included In Blocked Area

Washington, Dec. 17.

Hongkong was not included as a "blocked area" in yesterday's order freezing all Communist Chinese assets in the United States, Treasury officials said today.

But any person acting as an agent or "front" for Communist Chinese interests would be subject to the control, it was stated. The same was true for anyone living in any part of the world.

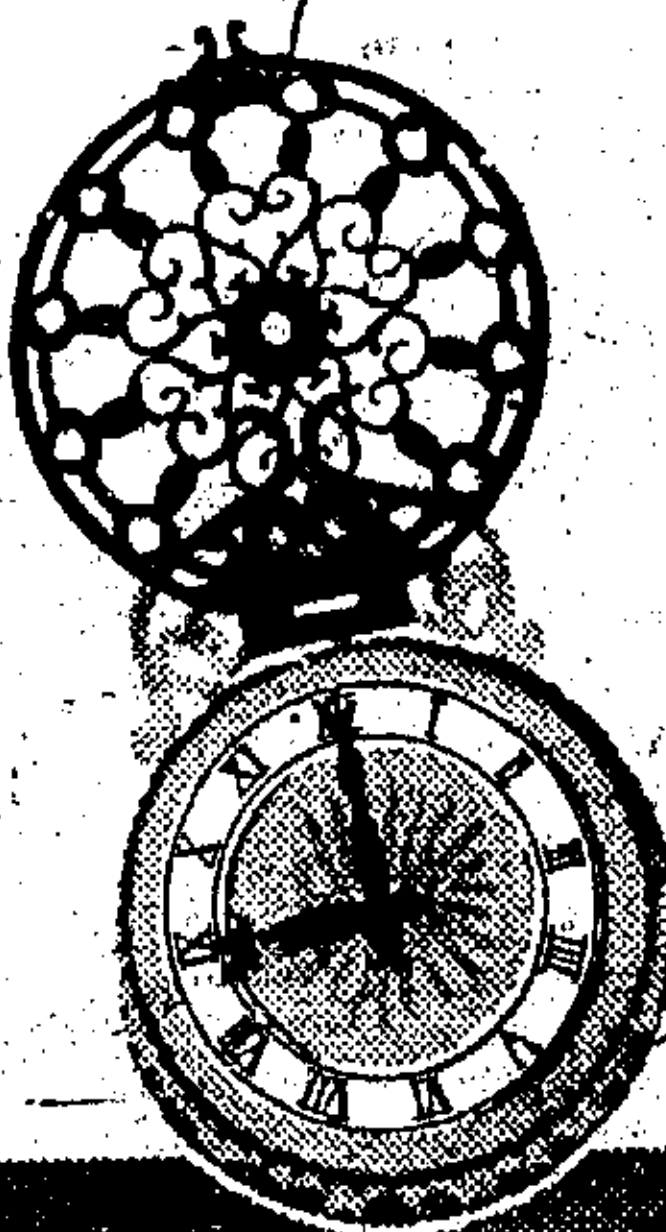
Chinese nationals living in Hongkong would not be subject to the blocking order, an official said. But a close examination would be made of all individual business transactions with the British colony.—Reuters.

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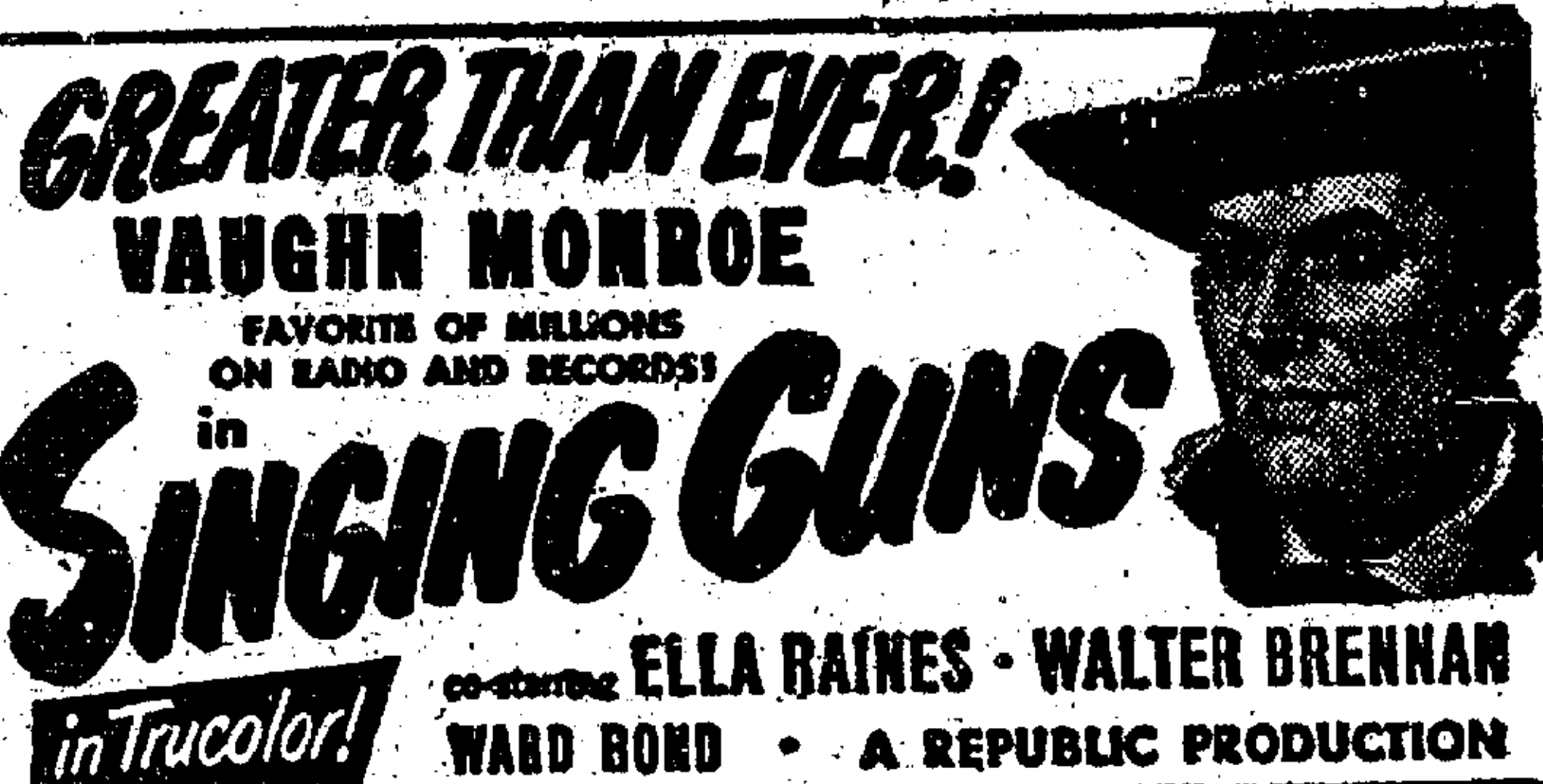
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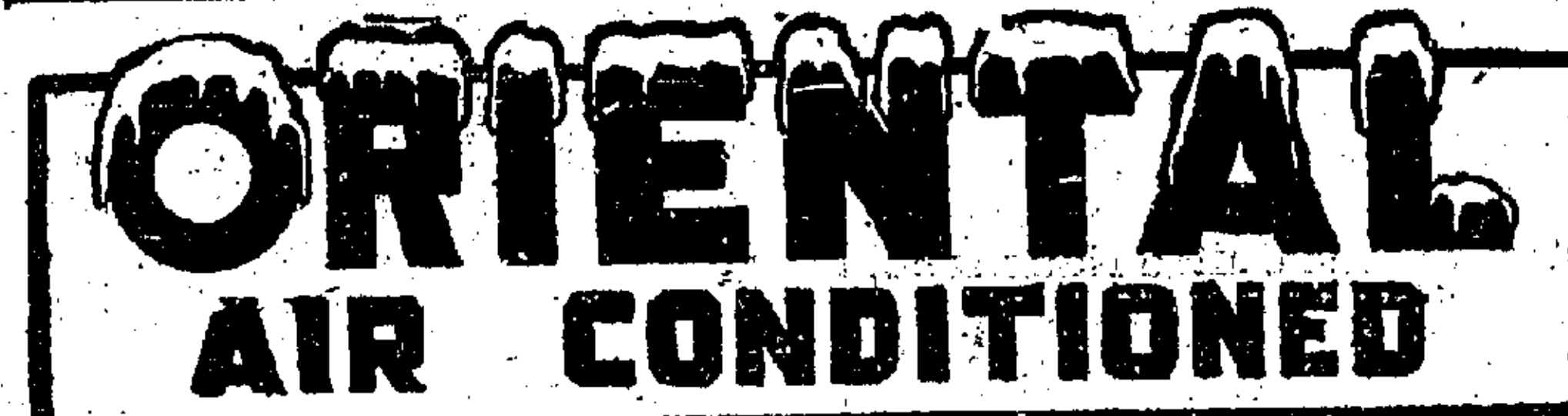
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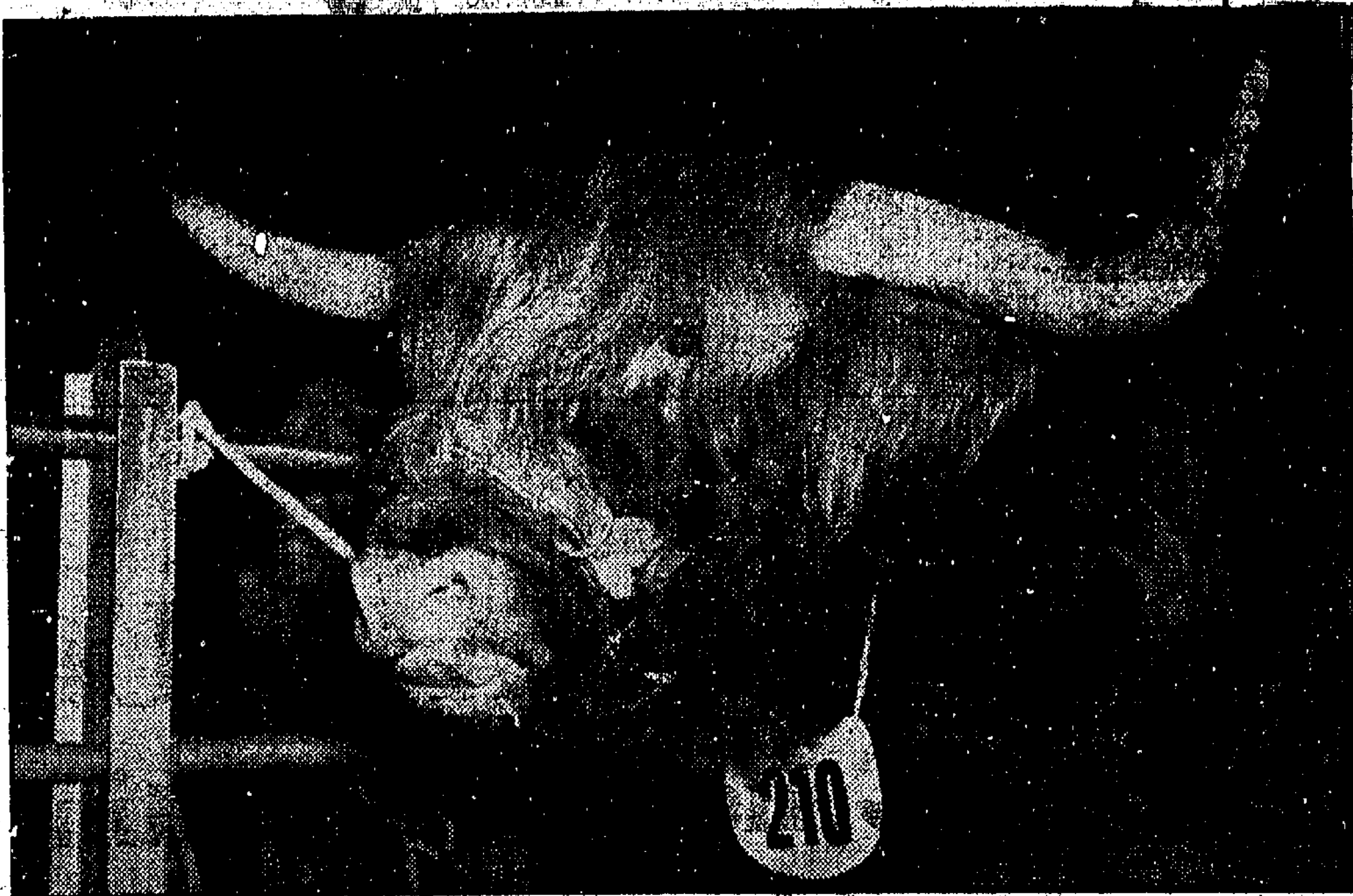
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Evidently relishing the idea of having its picture taken, "Tearlachile," a Highland steer owned by a Yorkshire farmer, at the Smithfield Fat Stock Show at Earls Court. (Central Press).

## ATLANTIC PACT POWERS MEET TO APPROVE INTEGRATED COMMAND

Brussels, Dec. 17.

The Foreign and Defence Ministers of the 12 North Atlantic Treaty nations, meeting here tomorrow, will give final approval to an integrated European Command; the appointment of a Supreme Commander and the broad outline of German participation, quarters close to the defence organisation stated today.

General Dwight Eisenhower's appointment as the Supreme Commander was expected to be announced almost immediately after the decision. Germany will contribute one-fifth of the integrated European Army, whose strength is unofficially estimated at from 55 to 58 divisions, the same sources said.

The Atlantic nations have agreed to a plan on the target of men, weapons and material they will each put into the defensive pool.

A North Atlantic Treaty organisation spokesman, commenting on reports that Germany's Chancellor, Dr Konrad Adenauer, or other German leaders would attend the Brussels talks, said: "There is no reason why the Germans should have been brought in at this stage."

"Our problem is to get the 12 European countries to reach a common agreement on the basis for German participation. It will now presumably be up to the High Commissioners to present this programme to the Bonn Government as a framework for German participation."

The spokesman described the latest Russian notes to Britain and France, protesting against German rearmament, as "normal tactics for the Russians to adopt to try to divide, frighten and paralyse any attempt to work out a defensive union for the West."

He said there has been a "deterioration in the German attitude during the past month."

—Reuter.

### SOVIET NOTE

London, Dec. 17.

The Soviet note alleging violations by Britain of the Anglo-Soviet Treaty was described by a Foreign Office spokesman today as a "patently tactical device" timed to coincide with the meeting of the North Atlantic Council of Ministers in Brussels tomorrow.

The text of the note, which was delivered on Friday night, has now been received in London.

The spokesman said it must be read against the background of the Soviet policy since the end of the war. That policy, he added, had been to build up a bloc of subservient States in Eastern Europe with the mili-

tary aspect emphasised by the appointment of a Soviet Marshal to control the Polish Army and by the formation of the Bereitschaften in Eastern Germany.

He pointed out that the three Western Powers protested to Moscow on May 23 against the formation of the East German force. —Reuter.

## Inflationary Impulse

London, Dec. 17.

Warnings about inflation dangers and appeals for strict economy in public and private business came today from the powerful Federation of British Industries and the Association of British Chambers of Commerce.

The Federation (FBI) said that some raw material shortages amounted to "actual famine."

The basis of industry was being "undermined." Only sacrifices could make room for the growing defence expenditure in the national economy.

The Chambers of Commerce appealed to members to avoid increases in personal incomes from earnings or investments because of the "strong inflationary impulse" coming from the rearmament programme. —Reuter.

## Rail Strike Called Off

Buenos Aires, Dec. 17.

Ten thousand striking railroad workers agreed today to return to work at midnight and bring suburban and long-distance service on all lines back to normal.

Workers accepted terms which are understood to include:

1. Minimum pay of 500 pesos per month with increases, yet to be ratified, for grace crossing signalmen and yard labourers.
2. No reprisals against strikers.
3. Full payment for the duration of the strike.

## Murder Victim Re-Married

London, Dec. 17.

Marie Raven, 23-year-old widow of Daniel Raven who battered her father and mother to death in October, 1949, was married in a London hotel to a man whose name is being kept secret.

The ceremony was performed by a Jewish Rabbi, the Rev. Saul Amias, who recited a special prayer for the future of the petite, auburn-haired girl.

Daniel Raven was executed last January for murder. After the trial, Mrs Raven said she was determined never to let her baby son hear of the tragedy which had befallen her. —Reuter.

## Man Power Crisis In British Mines

Swansea, South Wales.

Dec. 17.

Britain would have no miners in 27 years unless the present falling trend of manpower in the pits was reversed, Mr Arthur Horner, General Secretary of the 600,000-strong National Union of Mineworkers, declared today.

Mr Horner said that the miners could not be blamed for the present supply shortages which have become such that Britain, traditionally a coal exporter is now importing coal from the United States.

Declaring that recruitment for the coalfields was a responsibility for the country as a whole, he added, "For years we have been warning of a manpower crisis. The only remedy is to make wages and conditions sufficiently attractive that there will be the requisite inflow to the mines." —Reuter.

4. Replacement of the Executive Committee of the Railroad Union.

The strike started on Thursday and spread to other lines until only a few long-distance trains ran today. —United Press.



# HAMHUNG BEACHHEAD NARROWS

## No Real Fighting On Seoul Front For Eighteen Days

### Anti-Chinese Scenes In United States

Washington, Dec. 17. The Chinese (Nationalist) Embassy today issued a public statement deploring the alleged anti-Chinese demonstrations which it said have taken place in the United States since Red China invaded Korea.

The Embassy said the Chinese residents in the United States are strongly anti-Communist and should not be associated with "violent actions" of the Chinese Communists in China and Korea.

The statement said the Embassy had received reports that Chinese nationals in the United States have "been subjected to uncivil remarks and maltreated in other ways... and some of their shops have been stoned by American citizens who apparently sought to express their feelings in protest against the Chinese Communist aggression in Korea."

"Such manifestations, however natural and excusable, are unfortunate and regrettable because the Chinese residents in this hospitable country have been known as a whole to be law-abiding and anti-Communist and to cherish the American way of life. They strongly deprecate the anti-American propaganda and demonstrations on the mainland of China officially sponsored by the Communist regime and the armed attacks by the Chinese Communist troops against the United States and other United Nations forces in Korea."—United Press.

### Mysore Grows Flax

Mysore, Dec. 17. Flax is to be grown for the first time on a commercial scale in the South Indian industrial State of Mysore.

Mysore is the leading silk-producing state in India.—Reuter.

### Naval Guns Pounding At China Red Positions

Tokyo, Dec. 17. The big guns of Allied warships roared into action across Hungnam Bay today, pounding the Chinese Communist forces pressing heavily on the last beleaguered United Nations garrison in North-East Korea.

The Communists, after their capture yesterday of the key town of Hamhung, 10 miles inland, were now reported to be attacking the shrinking Allied perimeter at points only four miles north-east and seven miles northwest of the east coast port.

But the men of the American 10th Corps, with their backs to the sea and fortified by the barrages from their own warships, were resisting stubbornly the four-day-old Communist onslaught.

The great Chinese Communist forces poised along the 38th Parallel in the North-West had still made no attempt to cross into South Korea, apparently waiting for the outcome of the United Nations moves.

The American Eighth Army, stretched below the Parallel in a defence arc covering Seoul, the Southern capital, had so far had to deal only with guerillas and North Koreans.

Rebuilt North Korean forces attacked both ends of the line, forcing small withdrawals.

Driving down the west coast from Haeju, they were reported fighting around Yonan, eight miles south of the Parallel and moving on Paekchon and Kaesong, further inland, only 40 miles from Seoul.

### CHUNCHON CLASH

South Korean troops were counter-attacking the North Koreans on the right flank in an attempt to straighten a mile-deep salient driven into the United Nations lines northwest of Chunchon.

Further east fighting was taking place around Yonchon, an important road and railway junction just north of the Parallel and in the area of

Yongpyong, almost on the Parallel itself, where artillery was in action against 2,000 Communist troops.

An Allied spokesman said that there were indications of a considerable Communist buildup in this area.

General MacArthur's afternoon communique today spoke only in general terms of the activity in Korea. It said that ground action in the North-East was limited to a series of short exchanges of fire in the Hamhung area.—Reuter.

### SHIFTING GROUND

Tokyo, Dec. 18. William Chapman reported from inside the defence perimeter that the Chinese are believed to be shifting their main force to the north and northeast for a great attack down the mountain ridges that stab into the heart of the Hungnam beachhead.

A prisoner captured by the Third Division revealed that his commanders had ordered up artillery reinforcements to soften up the beachhead area but no Communist artillery fire was reported up to early this morning.

The Chinese are believed to have from 10 to 12 divisions—100,000 to 120,000 men—ready for an attack on the Hungnam beachhead and today a new Chinese division—the 74th—was identified on the western side of the defence perimeter.

A communique from Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters said a Communist force "succeeded in penetrating the defence perimeter" on Sunday but that the American forces counter-attacked, capturing 50 prisoners.

The communique said that later an attack from the north was repulsed and another 50 Chinese Communists were captured.—United Press.

### Peking's Retaliation

New York, Dec. 17.

Informed sources said the reported Chinese export ban probably would force the United States to spend more money to sustain the Japanese economy, heretofore partly dependent on trade with the Chinese mainland.

The chief Chinese shipments to the United States have been tung oil and hog bristles used for paints and brushes and tin, tungsten and antimony.

Informed officials said the loss of tung oil and hog bristles shipments undoubtedly will affect the U.S. civilian industry because there are really no suitable substitutes.

"We'd certainly like that stuff but it is not going to throw the American economy into a tail-spin," one official remarked. He added that the U.S. has not been getting "great quantities" of tin, tungsten and antimony from Red China and is "not dependent" on shipments from the Orient. There was no immediate indication of whether the United States would take any further steps in view of the Chinese Communist export ban.—United Press.

### Pope Conducts Mass

Vatican City, Dec. 17. The Pope today conducted Mass for 40,000 Romans in the Basilica of St. Peter's and for many thousands of others outside for lack of space, who listened to the Mass through loudspeakers in the Square. Big contingents from all the city's 123 parishes attended as well as the Mayor and other City authorities.—Reuter.

### Strike Off

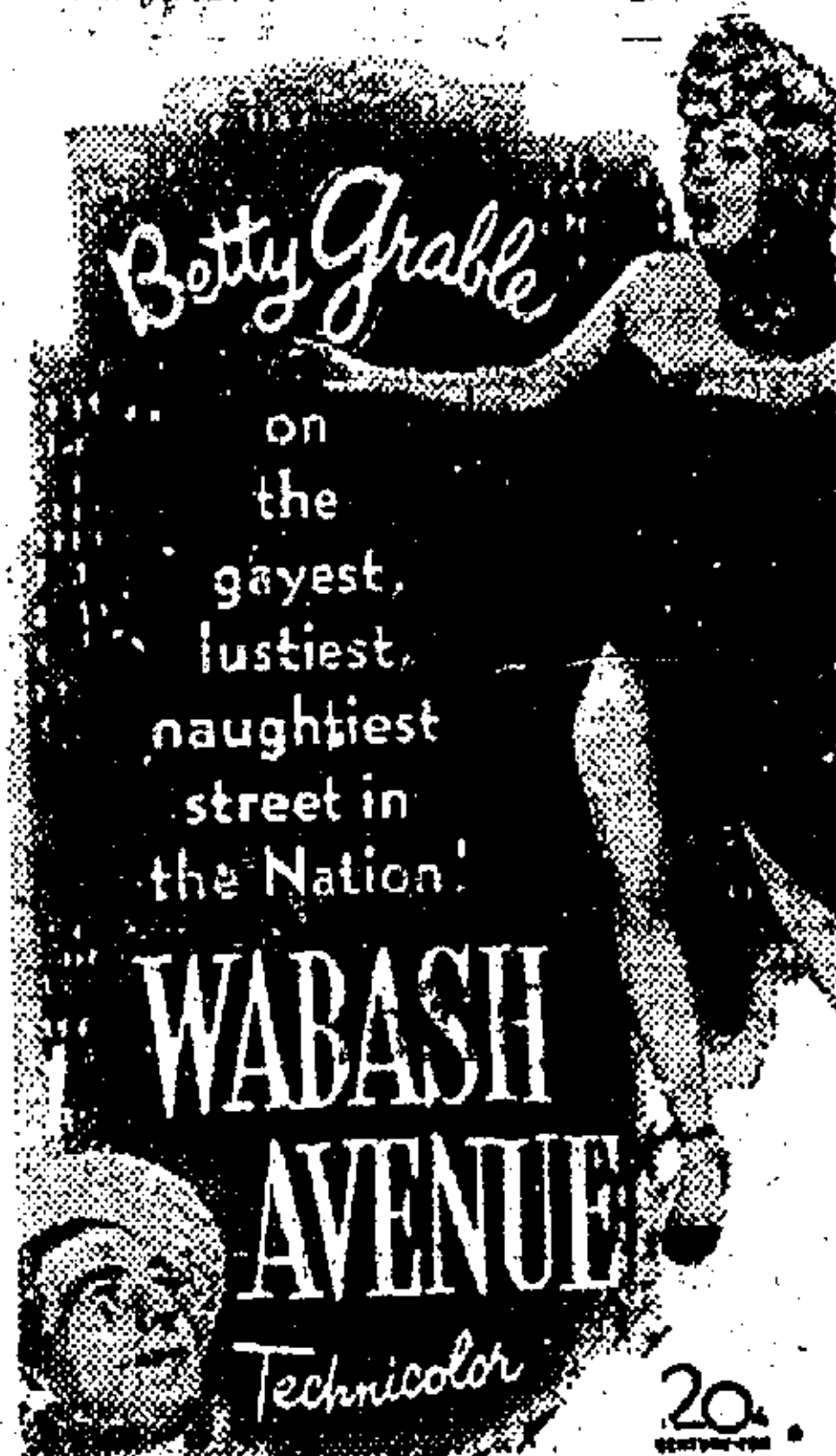
London, Dec. 17. A threatened go slow strike by Cable and Wireless operators for tomorrow has been called off.—Reuter.

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One of Britain's leading table tennis players, Miss Peggy Franks, of Kent, seen in play during the English Open championships at Wembley. (Central Press).





His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, was welcomed back to Hongkong on his return from leave at a dinner given by St. John Ambulance Brigade. Here His Excellency is seen chatting with Mr A. el C. Arculli, Commissioner of St. John Ambulance Association and Brigade.—Staff Photographer.

### Controls Urged By Senator

Washington, Dec. 17. Senator Walter George, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, today urged immediate imposition of general wage-price controls.

Prices should be set back to the levels of 30 to 25 days ago, he said.—Reuter.

### Uruguayan Meat Offer

Montevideo, Dec. 16. Responsible sources said today that the Uruguayan government was ready to resume meat shipments to Britain at the provisional price of £97.5 per ton, providing the British agree to work out a new price agreement within 90 days.—United Press.

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## Serious Collapse Of Empire Press Communications

London, Dec. 17.

The Council of the Empire Press Union, which embraces a majority of the newspaper interests of the Commonwealth and Empire, has called for the setting up of relay stations to combat the increasing difficulties in news transmission to and from Commonwealth countries.

Discussing what was described as "the very serious collapse of Commonwealth telecommunications for press purposes" at its meeting last Tuesday, the Council has now issued a memorandum listing the various causes in apparent order of importance as:

1.—The peak of a sunspot cycle which is associated with the daily "fading-out" of long-distance radio for varying purposes.

2.—The change-over to Post Office control of Electra House, the Commonwealth's London terminal, which was formerly operated by Cable and Wireless, Limited, as a commercial company.

It had seemed to many Commonwealth Press correspondents in London to be "more than a coincidence" that the present disastrous breakdown follows the transfer to Post Office control, whereas their despatches had been passing speedily through ever since the close of the war," the memorandum said.

For the past two months it has been increasingly difficult—at times impossible—to send news telegrams between Britain and the Commonwealth countries overseas, in either direction, whether by the normal British radio "beams" or by cable.

#### ONLY REMEDY

The breakdowns which have cut off more especially Australia and New Zealand for periods that have already reached 30 hours, may, so far as can be seen, continue to lengthen, the memorandum said.

Under such conditions news—always a swiftly perishable commodity—simply ceases to

be news. Even during the war the position was not worse than it is at present.

"The breakdown is particularly menacing at this time of severe international tension," the memorandum declared.

"The only known remedy for radio is the establishment of intermediate relay stations—a long and costly process, providing vulnerability in time of war.

"Nevertheless, such relay stations would seem to be urgently needed. Coupled with that, new cables are called for. Here again, while the cost would be heavy, the need is great. The scattered Commonwealth needs a first-class nervous system."

The memorandum added that while these remedies would be decisive they would take years to apply. It ended with a query. "In the meantime, what can be done to start inter-Commonwealth news and information flowing freely again?" it asked.—Reuter.

### India Tough Proposition

New York, Dec. 17.

Communist China would find India a tough proposition if forces from the north tried to invade India, Sardar J. Singh, President of the India League of America, said here today.

Speaking at the League's annual meeting he added, "The people of India got rid of one foreign ruler only four years ago. They certainly will not want another foreign ruler."

"And Chinese and Russians are as much foreigners to the people of India as the British, Americans or other Western nations."

"I believe that the Western democracies or the non-Communist countries no longer covet an inch of the land of others.—Reuter.

## ONSLAUGHT ON ACHESON MAY BE SUSPENDED

Washington, Dec. 17.

With the Secretary of State, Mr Dean Acheson, in Europe for a defence conference in time of "greater peril," signs arose in Congress that the Republican Party attacks on him might subside somewhat.

Strong Republican minorities in each House of the national legislature last week demanded Mr Acheson's resignation, but President Truman countered with complete endorsement of the Secretary, and other officials said authoritatively that Mr Acheson had no intention whatever of resigning.

Individual Republicans are expected to continue, in speeches and resolutions, to snipe at Mr Acheson, but Party leadership indicated it had no plans to carry the attacks any further at present. Impartial political experts said there were two reasons for this:

1. As the national danger increases, political parties will tend to concentrate more on "close ranks" in unity for common ideals.

2. The Republican assault upon Mr Acheson was more of a symbol of popular resentment and frustration over the turn of events in East Asia than a personal attack upon the Secretary or a demand for any drastic change in national policy.

Much of the "failure" of Government dealings with China and Korea goes back to decisions made before Mr Acheson took office, therefore the criticism of the opposition party really bore more on Mr Truman than on Mr Acheson, experts said. Mr Acheson, however, was regarded as the more vulnerable target, from the popular public standpoint. Now that the Party has registered its views officially, it will probably let the matter stand as far as action in Congress is concerned, veterans believe.

#### NO PARTY ACTION

Supporting evidence for this came from Senator Robert Taft, Chairman of the Republican Policy Committee in the Senate. Senator Taft said individual Republicans were likely to protest further about Mr Acheson but that the Party as such in Congress would probably take no further action. Some Party members talked of carrying the matter to the floor of each chamber, but there was no leadership approval for this.

Votes demanding Mr Acheson's resignation last week were taken only in Party caucuses and not in the legislative chambers. Senator Wayne Morse, another Republican, said some of his colleagues voted against their convictions or better judgment.

"One of the saddest things about the Republican conference was that several Senators expressed the view that the resolution (against Mr Acheson) should not be adopted, in the interests of national unity and international affairs, yet finally yielded to partisan pressure and voted for it," he said.

#### NO WEAKENING

Impartial experts in Congress said they did so because in past weeks, before the international situation became so grave, they had become publicly identified with the anti-Acheson movement and felt they could not readily reverse themselves at this stage, especially as their mail from constituents contained great numbers of complaints against the United States' performance in coping with the Far Eastern situation.

Diplomatic quarters here generally agreed that the Republicans' vote against Mr Acheson hit his prestige at a critical time of international negotiation, but the importance of the minority Party action might be overestimated. They pointed out that Mr Acheson

was directly responsible only to President Truman and not to Congress. Therefore as long as he and Mr Truman could work well together, there need be no weakening in the executive arm of the Government in international dealings.

Weakness might appear when President Truman sought new legislation from Congress dealing with the world situation, such as appropriations for military or economic aid for friendly nations. Then critics of Mr Acheson could vote against such measures on the grounds that they are part of Truman-Acheson foreign policy.

Reports said there was little indication at present that the Republicans would actually risk undermining national security or the U.S. policy of co-operation with other free nations merely for the sake of ousting Mr Acheson.

#### MACARTHUR ANGLE

The consensus of opinion among impartial political observers here seemed to be that several factors entered into the recent attacks on Mr Acheson. One, for instance, was purely partisan and political. The opposition seized the chance to capitalise on the Government's embarrassment over its defeat at the hands of the Chinese Reds.

Another factor was represented by the anxiety over alleged lack of co-operation between General MacArthur and officials here.

Since motives were concerned with foreign troubles, it was easiest for the critical groups to concentrate upon Mr Acheson. Moreover, the State Department was in disfavour with some because of the admitted discovery recently of several score of perverts among its employees and the espionage of a former official. Objective persons, however, realised Mr Acheson was not responsible for many of these happenings. Therefore they saw reason that President Truman would stand firmly by his Secretary of State in the hope of riding out the storm of criticism.—United Press.

## Communist Persecution

London, Dec. 17.

Mr. Ewen S. Montagu told the annual meeting of the Anglo-Jewish Association in London today that Jewish life was weakening in countries east of the "Iron Curtain" under the pressure of a totalitarian ideology.

If the process continued, he said, Jewish life would crumble "in much the same way that it has crumbled in Russia itself."

Mr. Montagu, Westminster and Harvard educated, a King's Counsel, is a brother of the British banker, Lord Swaythling.

Referring to the attitude towards Jews of various East European countries, he said that some, after obstructing the emigration of the Jews, suddenly relaxed their attitudes.—Reuter.



# NEW TRUMAN-ATTLEEE TALKS?

## British Dissatisfaction Over Decision On The Atom Bomb

### MOSCOW'S POTENTIAL THREAT

Brussels, Dec. 17.

Continental delegates arriving here today for Atlantic Pact defence talks saw a potential threat in the new Russian protest to Britain and France against German rearmament.

The Ministers, on the eve of their two-day meeting to create a Western bulwark against Communist aggression, were reluctant to envisage the full consequences of yesterday's Soviet "warning."

The effect of the Russian protest, usually reliable quarters said, might be to renew the emphasis of the defensive character of the rearmament planned for Western Europe. They could not anticipate any change in policy towards "appeasement" despite the psychological timing of this latest Russian move.

Russia, in a separate note to Britain and France yesterday, stated that the rearming of Western Germany would violate present treaties between the two countries.

Usually well-informed diplomatic circles in Paris did not think that the Russian note would in any way affect France's attitude to German rearmament and the formation of a military coalition at the Brussels talks.

#### WESTERN REPLY

The Western reply to the Soviet note was expected to point out that Russia herself had created armed forces in Eastern Germany which might be considered contrary to the Franco-Soviet treaty of 1944.

Aggression in Korea and Russia's refusal to help to create a system of collective security had increased insecurity and had made it necessary for Western Europe to contemplate reinforcing her common defences with German aid.

German political quarters in Bonn, the West German capital, regarded the Soviet protests as a manoeuvre designed to disturb the atmosphere of the Brussels conference.—Reuter.

### Airman's Romance Plea

London, Dec. 17.

Group Captain Claude Henry Turner, one of three Britons charged in Warsaw with attempting to smuggle a Polish girl, Miss Barbara Bobrowska, out of the country has asked the court to "accept his confession" and release him, Warsaw Radio reported tonight.

The trial has been going on for the past week.—Reuter.

London, Dec. 17.

Great Britain smarted today under the loss of the wartime equal partnership she had with the United States on the atom bomb—including the veto over its use.

This development has been toned down for a couple of days and Prime Minister Attlee, since returning from Washington, has made efforts to avoid disclosing the loss. But it is there, and it irritates British officials who know all the details, as well as some of the British public.

Britain's unequal partnership in atomic energy, and the many and deep Anglo-American differences over China, make another early meeting between Mr Attlee and President Truman almost certain. The Chinese issue is probably the most dangerous at the moment because it carries with it the threat of an Anglo-American split.

The Foreign Affairs debate in Parliament disclosed that at almost every step the United States and Britain have disagreed over Chinese policy and continue to disagree.

Britain holds fast to her belief that it was right and is still right to recognise Communist China. The United States thinks recognition of the Peking regime is wrong. Britain wants Communist China admitted to the United Nations; the United States is violently opposed. Britain thought it was a mistake for Mr Truman to link Formosa with Korea; the U.S. still thinks it was right.

Britain wanted to halt Korean action south of the Manchurian border and create a no-man's-land; the U.S. Chiefs of Staff rejected that proposal. Britain wants the U.S. to promise that in any negotiations on the future of Formosa, the Chinese Communists will have a voice; the U.S. is cool to that idea. Britain would be willing to go much farther in making negotiations attractive to the Chinese, but the U.S. insists on a ceasefire before talking.

And over all this hangs the atomic bomb.

#### ATTLEE'S AGREEMENT

Mr Attlee came back from Washington with some kind of gentleman's agreement with Mr Truman regarding its use. But the understanding was so secret that he could not even tell it to the House of Commons.

During the war, it was understood, Mr Truman and Winston Churchill had a full partnership agreement on atomic energy.

This included a veto for both Britain and Canada over the use of the bomb once it was developed, since the bomb could not have been made when it was without British and Canadian help.

But that was before the post-war McMahon Act in the United States, which makes the President of the U.S. the sole custodian of atomic weapons.

#### IMPETUOUS TRUMAN

The loss of that full partnership—and especially the British veto over the use of the bomb—is what worries the British almost as much as anything. They have come to consider Mr Truman an impetuous sort of man who, on the spur of the

moment, writes letters about the Marines that he had to retract, and to music critics threatening to punch them in the nose.

The British hope—but they are not sure—that Mr Truman will not suddenly write a letter authorising the use of the atomic bomb. They would feel a lot safer if they had a voice in deciding if and when such drastic steps should be taken.

U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson and British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin will have a chance in Brussels this week to mull over these problems again. But the outlook is that pressure from the British public for another Truman-Attlee meeting will probably develop when Anglo-American differences on the Far East become more apparent.—United Press.

### Treason Trial Opens In Damascus

Damascus, Dec. 17.

Three men were charged before a Military Court here today with plotting with a foreign neighbouring country against the State's security.

The Court prevented the Press mentioning the name of the foreign country and the foreign officials alleged to be involved.

The former Syrian Defence Minister, Ahmad Rabaty, will face trial before the same Court on Wednesday on charges of organising a terrorist organisation alleged to be responsible for an attempt on the life of the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Syrian Army, Colonel Adeeb Shishakli.

Saudi Arabia is to be named in the second case as being allegedly involved.

The Saudi Arabian Embassy last month denied that it had financed Arab terrorism in Syria and that its Government had financed an alleged plot to kill King Abdullah of Jordan.—Reuter.



When an advertisement appeared in the "Wanted" column of a Paris newspaper for "a man for dangerous mission, France or abroad," Robert Planet answered it. He did not guess that the mission was murder but when he met the advertiser, Andree Farree, housekeeper to wealthy 64-year-old M. Thelie, and she told him she wanted to kill her employer and get his property, he agreed. The old man was overpowered, made to sign over his property and then strangled. The guilty couple, shown here in court, were sentenced, the woman to the guillotine and the man to 20 years imprisonment.—Central Press.

## Danger Of Malaya Campaign Pointed

London, Dec. 17.

The situation in South East Asia made it imperative that the campaign in Malaya against Communist banditry should not be allowed to drag on indefinitely, the Yorkshire Post (Conservative) declared yesterday.

Commenting on the recent fresh measures taken by the Malayan Government to tackle the menace of Communist banditry in Malaya, the Yorkshire Post, in a leading article entitled "Urgent problems in Malaya," welcomed the measures and observed that Britain had reason to be grateful for the loyalty of the Malays during these anxious times.

Stating that Britain would be wise to take measures to maintain the confidence of the Asian peoples in her ability and determination to defend them, the newspaper added: "She should also demonstrate that she has a sincere concern for their welfare."

"Even on grounds of narrow self-interest she cannot afford to neglect her pressing responsibilities in Malaya. For her own economic strength depends to a very large extent upon the country's contribution to the Empire's sources."

The Yorkshire Post analysed the measures to be taken and declared: "So long as the Central Executive of the Communist organisation exists, it will be a threat to peace and order in Malaya."

"It is urgently necessary to break up the Communist Com-

mand quickly before external dangers become greater. High rewards are necessary because, as experience has shown, there is the greatest difficulty in securing information about the bandits and their movements."

"The reason is that the Malayan population go in terror of their lives."

"In these circumstances it is a sound plan to give the Malayan peoples an increasing part in the fight by encouraging them to bear arms against the terrorists," the newspaper stated.—Reuter.

### American Flour For Yugoslavia

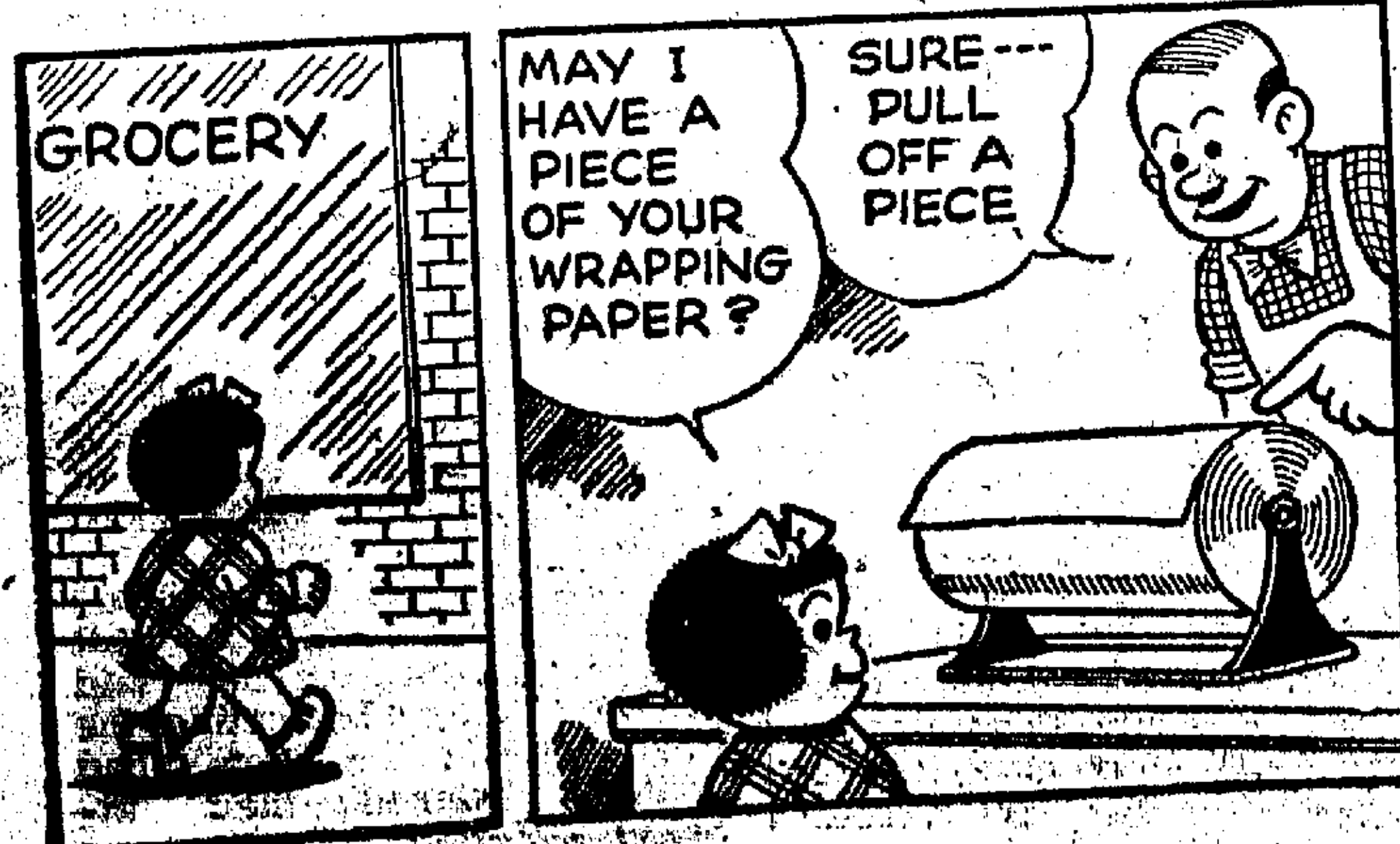
Belgrade, Dec. 17.

The first American aid flour has arrived from Italy at the Yugoslav frontier station of Sezana, the Yugoslav news agency, Tanjug, reported. It consisted of 180 tons.

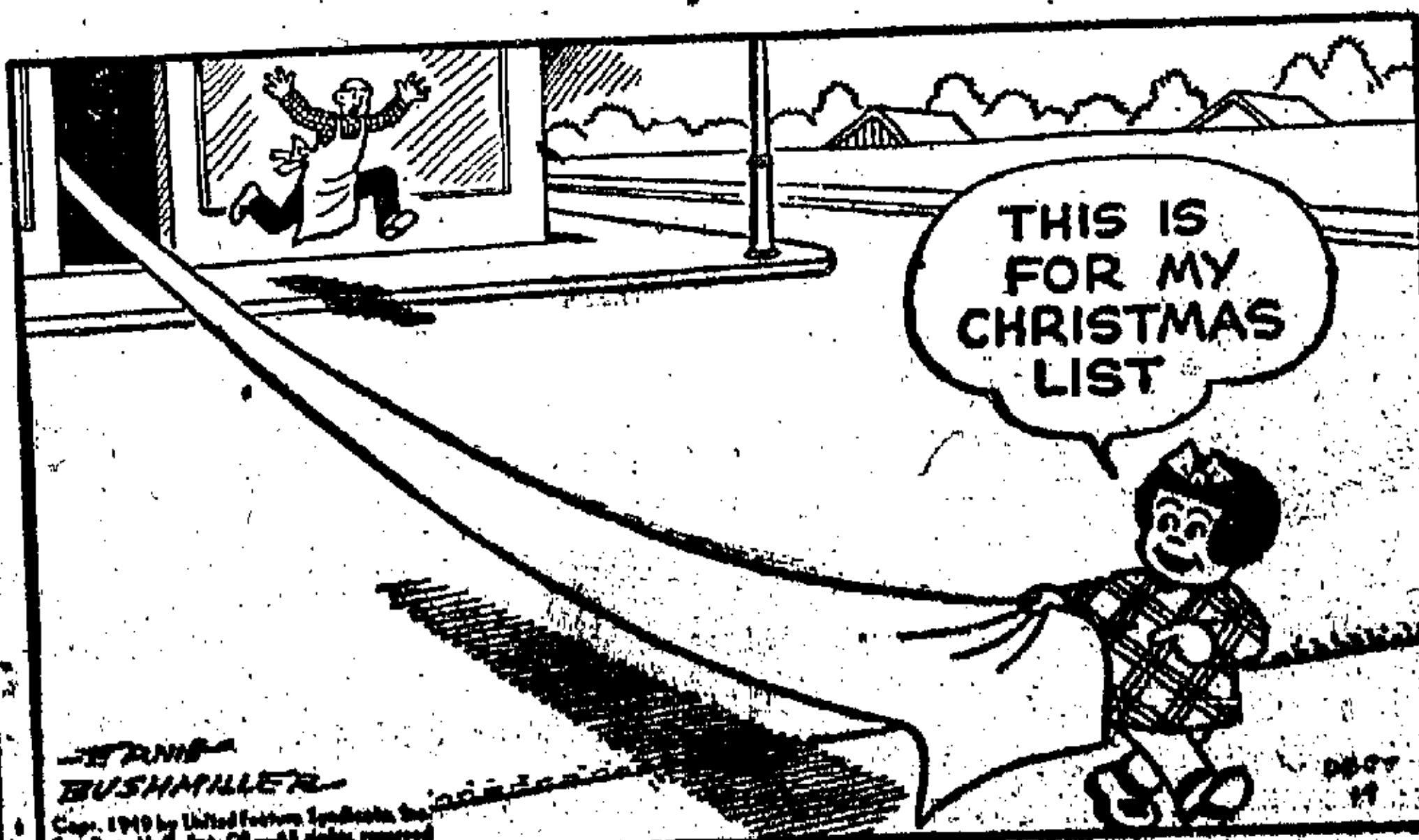
It is part of the 35,000 tons promised from American stocks there to help Yugoslavia, whose harvests were ruined by drought.—Reuter.

### NANCY

So Long



By Ernie Bushmiller





# CAMBRIDGE WILL REMEMBER HOFMEYR

## Oxford's Match-Winner Had To Be Persuaded To Shelve His Books

By PETER LOVEGROVE

J. McG. Kendall-Carpenter, the Oxford University XV captain and giant England forward, had good reason to congratulate himself after the 69th Inter-Varsity match that he managed to persuade Murray Hofmeyr to interrupt his studies a fortnight ago.

Hofmeyr, a South African who played for the Dark Blues at outside-half in 1948 and at full-back last season, when he also earned three England caps and got his cricket Blue last summer, decided at the beginning of this rugby season that he must concentrate on work.

After Oxford had gone down to Blackheath and Richmond in successive games at the beginning of November, and their much-vaunted back division, which comprises three Internationals and an England Triallist, had shown signs of sluggishness in attack and unsteadiness under pressure, Hofmeyr put his books away and returned to the side.

He is not a great outside-half, and lacks the spectacular but wayward genius of a Glyn Davies. But he is the perfect link, always cool under pressure, and his kicking is magnificent.

### TRANSFORMED THE SIDE

His reappearance transformed the side. After clear-cut wins over Stanley's XV—consisting entirely of British Isles tourists—Harlequins and London Scottish, Oxford struck their top note on a snow-covered Twickenham on December 5, and beat Cambridge

most handsomely by eight points to nil—their third victory in succession over the Light Blues and their 32nd of the series.

Hofmeyr's value was proved within three minutes when he landed an unforgettable penalty goal from just inside the touch-line—a fine feat on a true pitch but an exceptional one considering the amount of rain, sleet and snow we had in the previous ten days.

He tore his groin muscles soon after and was twice off the field for varying periods to receive injections to deaden the pain, played at full-back for a time, and then resumed at outside-half after the interval directing operations with perfect passes to his centres and cleverly placed high cross kicks. He also converted the try scored by D. A. Emmis, the hooker, into a goal six minutes before half-time.

Cambridge threw away the penalty through their forwards' overeagerness, but they had their chances to level matters while Hofmeyr was off the field. Their forwards promptly exploited their numerical and weight advantage, Brian Reeve was held up a yard from the line while Glyn Davies went only just wide with a drop shot.

But other opportunities were missed through rank bad passing. When Hofmeyr resumed, the Dark Blues took complete control and hammered Cambridge unmercifully for the last 10 minutes of the first half and the first 25 of the second half.

Their forward supremacy became more and more pronounced. Scrum-half R. Green threw out a long and accurate pass by all circumstances, and Hofmeyr sent centres B. Boobyer and L. B. Cannell away time and again to develop those most elusive and twisting runs of theirs. It was following a characteristic Boobyer run that Emmis scored.

### GALLANT DESPERATION

Cambridge defended with gallant desperation, and though they tried to get going again in the closing minutes, the backs muffed the few opportunities that came their way. John Smith, England's brilliant right winger, was easily the coldest man at Twickenham. He never received a single pass and was only called upon to chase three-not-too-well-placed cross-kicks.

The rest of the time he spent with his hands in his pockets or blocking forward rushes from the line-outs. Why skipper Glyn Davies did not bring him in to centre—where he played the two previous seasons—when the tide was running against the Light Blues is a mystery.

It was the usual do-or-die struggle but not one of the great encounters of the series, partly because of the difficult conditions and largely because the Cambridge backs never applied down to the game we know they can play.

## THE VARSITIES' MATCH



A. Green, the Oxford scrum-half, makes a flying pass out from a scrum.

## The Backroom Boys Of Soccer Are Worth Their Fancy Income

Says ARCHIE QUICK

One of the lesser known men in football is the club scout. His under cover activities place him in the "Backroom Boy" category and his existence is vitally necessary to the big clubs.

I remember the days when the appearances of scouts on junior grounds were the signal for those worthies to be thrown into the nearest duck ponds or to be police-escorted away—just like referees! Those days are gone and now you find the scout travelling the highways and byways in a never ending search for talent.

Some of them get four figure salaries and expenses. What are they really worth? Well if they find only one star of £20,000 potential worth in five years searching they are still worth four figures a year. I know the Scottish agent of one of the First Division clubs who has sent them only one junior in the last three years. Easy money, you would say, but that "junior" could now be sold for £15,000.

### GOOD DAY'S WORK

On the other side of the picture I have a good story from Mr. Bill Lane, now assistant manager of Brighton, and in his varied career one time player for Spurs, scout for Brentford and manager of Guildford.

His first day as scout for Brentford, and manager Harry Curtis said "Go where you like." So Lane went and looked at Folkestone. He saw three players he like. Asked to go and see them again. Did so. Suggested Brentford signed them.

Mr Curtis was sceptical, but Lane's enthusiasm persuaded him. Eventually Brentford sold those three men for £5,000 (Durrant) £2,500 (Brown), £500 (Hobden)—£8,000 in all not a bad first days work!

New let me turn to one of the most remarkable curiosities in soccer. At the end of season 1946-47—only three years ago—Swansea were relegated from the Second Division to the Third South. Yet five of that team have since been sold for £80,000—Trefor Ford (Sunderland), Roy Paul (Manchester City), Ernest Jones (Southampton), Frank Squires (Grimsby) and Jack Haines (Bradford)—and every one of them an international now!

The old vexed question of professional footballers becoming referees crops up again with the passing of their examinations by Douglas MacGibbins (Bournemouth) and Don Curtis (Southampton). My own experience is that a majority of professional footballers do not know all the rules while they

are playing; and after their careers have ended they don't want to. It is a fact though, that at the moment there is not one

single ex-professional footballer—of any prominence at any rate—on the League list of referees.

## Commonwealth Lose Six Wickets For 44

Nagpur, Dec. 17.

A holiday crowd of 15,000 was kept interested in the day's play between the Commonwealth and the Governor's XI only by an unaccountable collapse of the Commonwealth batting after tea, when six wickets fell for 44 runs.

Early this morning, the Governor's XI, resuming at 127 runs for four wickets, lost three more wickets at the same total of 138 runs. But an enterprising stand of 53 runs in an hour by Mankad and Ramchand brought them within striking distance of the Commonwealth total before being all out at 216 runs—22 runs behind.

The Commonwealth took their second knock with just over two and a half hours to play. After Laurie Fishlock had gone at 14 runs, George Emmett and

Harold Gimblett, added 96 runs for the second wicket.

Mankad, in an attempt to infuse some life into the play, called upon his non-bowling players to take a turn with the ball but the batsmen refused to play forceful cricket.

Play continued to be dull until after tea, when the Commonwealth collapsed against the bowling of the offspinner, Kesari, and the legspinner, Kishenchand, both of whom are not considered regular bowlers. —Reuter.

## Reg Simpson To Captain Notts

London.

The Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club have cabled Reg Simpson in Australia, informing him that he has been appointed captain of the county for the next season.

He will take the place of W.A. Sime, who has been the captain for the past four seasons and who resigned at a meeting of the Committee in Nottingham on December 1.

The Committee decided to cable Simpson their good wishes for a successful tour in Australia and notify him of his appointment. —Reuter.

## THE GAMBOLS



## Cockell To Fight Lloyd Marshall

London, Dec. 17.

Don Cockell, the British Light-Heavyweight Champion, has agreed to meet Lloyd Marshall, the coloured American who beat Tommy Farr on December 4, in a return fight at Harringay Arena on February 27 next year.

Marshall has also agreed to the number of rounds, weight and terms, but Mr Jack Solomons, the London boxing promoter, said over a week ago that there was one snag.

"Marshall is supposed to fight in Germany in the middle of February and as the contest between him and Cockell is so important to us I have asked for 21 clear days between fights for Marshall," said Mr Solomons.

"I am hoping to persuade German promoters to bring the date of their fight forward and Marshall is staying in London until I get news."

Cockell beat Marshall at Earl's Court, London, on November 14 when the American was disqualified in the seventh round after delivering a body punch.

If Marshall is unable to fight Cockell in February, Tommy Yarosz, another American, may take his place.

Mr Solomons is still waiting for news from Germany regarding Marshall's contracted fight in February, but announced that Yarosz has agreed to fight Cockell. —Reuter.



# The Churchill Story, Fifth Instalment PRISONER OF THE BOERS

**I**N 1899 Winston Churchill (Cons) was defeated at Oldham in his first attempt to follow his father into politics. He lost to the Liberal, Walter Runciman, by 1,293 votes.

In 1900, also as a Conservative at Oldham, he won his seat from Runciman by 222 votes.

Between those two elections he became for the first time the hero of his countrymen.

It was a strange twist of fate that made battle, from which he had withdrawn himself by quitting the Army, the means by which fame came to one who wanted only to be a politician.

He took his defeat philosophically. He turned to writing to fill in the gaps in time and pocket until he could renew the political struggle.

## His Only Novel

**A**BOUT this time his one and only novel, "Savrola," which he had begun in India, was published. He made £700 out of it.

It is a Ruritanian tale of power politics written with youthful gusto but in more ornate style than he later developed.

Savrola, whom it is not difficult to identify with the author, is a liberal-thinking man who overthrows a reactionary government and then falls victim to a socialist one.

It rolls with the thunder of oratory and the blood of orators. Sometimes within its pages you can almost hear the youthful Churchill talking to himself.

"Would you rise in the world?" said Savrola. "You must work while others amuse themselves. Are you desirous of a reputation for courage? You must risk your life. Would you be strong morally or physically? You must resist temptations."

"All this is paying in advance; that is prospective finance. Observe the other side of the picture; the bad things are paid for afterwards."

There is one other passage in "Savrola" well suited to the tale about to be told—the tale of war correspondent Churchill in the Boer War.

## Into Battle Again

**I**N that scene of confusion and indecision, states the novel, "Savrola looked magnificent. His very presence imparted a feeling of confidence to his followers. His high and ample forehead might have contained the answer to every question; his determined composure seemed equal to the utmost stroke of fate."

A fortnight before his 25th birthday and just over a year after he had ridden his horse at Omdurman, Winston Churchill of the "Morning Post" went into battle again, but this time riding in an armoured train.

## Ambush

**I**T puffed along sixteen miles of railway line from Estcourt with companies of Dublin Fusiliers and Durban Light Infantry aboard.

Churchill was not to be done out of such an experience. He was standing head and shoulders out of the rear armoured truck when the train was ambushed.

**SHRAPNEL**—his first and nearly his last experience of it—burst over him and the train crashed at 40 mph into a

**By Colin Frame**

railblock, derailing two trucks and killing or injuring many soldiers.

For 70 minutes, with shells bursting and Boer riflemen firing from the hillsides, Churchill, civilian though he was, took command of the situation.

He left the senior officer to encourage his men to return fire from the comparative safety of their trucks and dodged up to the engine to see how the rest of the train could be brought safely out.

"I remember thinking it was like working in front of an iron target at a rifle range at which men were continually firing," he wrote in "My Early Life."

## Cleared The Line

**F**IRST he had to improve the wounded engine driver's morale. "No man is struck twice on the same day," he assured him with more confidence than he could possibly have felt. He added that if the man did his duty he would probably be decorated.

[Ten years later when he was Home Secretary Churchill made good this promise and the driver got the Albert Medal.]

Then, coolly and methodically Churchill set about clearing the line, using the engine as a battering ram.

Just how hot the firing was can be judged from the fact that when he called for twenty volunteers to help overturn one damaged truck, nine men only stepped out of their armoured boxes.

But they did the job.

And just how cool and Savrola-like Churchill was during this nightmare episode can be judged from a remark he made which, although he never recorded it, lived in the minds of the soldiery.

"Keep cool, men," he said. "This will make good copy for my paper."

Fortunately what the soldiers replied is not on record but it was no doubt far from complimentary either to the "Morning Post" or their extraordinarily special correspondent.

Slowly, with the engine chugging to and fro and the men heaving obstructions to the side of the line, the rails were cleared for the homeward run. Plans were made for the engine, with 40 wounded on board, to move slowly back to safety while the rest of the troops marched beside it using it as a shield against the Boer fire which had by now increased with further rifles and an additional field gun.

Churchill entered the engine cab to direct the driver. The pace was too hot for the infantry. He stopped the engine and went back along the line.

There he ran full tilt into the Boers.

"My mind retains its impression of these tall figures, full of energy, clad in dark flapping clothes, with slouch, storm-driven hats, poising on their levelled rifles hardly 100 yards away," he wrote.

## Call To Surrender

**C**HURCHILL turned and ran. Bullets whistled by him and whined away into the banks of the cutting. He climbed a bank and lay panting in a shallow depression at the top.

Then came a horseman, leveling his rifle and shouting loudly for Churchill to surrender. Churchill felt for his pistol—"I thought I could kill this man, and after the treatment I had received I earnestly desire to do so."

For a moment time stood still. The men looked at each other. Although neither knew it, this was one of the great moments of history, a meeting so strange that in fiction it would be thought far-fetched.

The bearded, uncouth horseman was Louis Botha, due to be first Prime Minister of South Africa and one of the great Empire statesmen of the 1914-18 war.

## Hands Went Up

**H**e looked along his rifle sights at the man who would be called to save the Empire four decades hence.

Churchill fumbled for his pistol and then realised he had left it in the engine.

He looked around for a loophole of escape. Then his hands went up.

As he plodded into captivity by the side of General Botha he realised that as a civilian who had taken part in a military action he was in an uncomfortable position. Admittedly he had no pistol, but he still had clips of bullets for it. And they were dum-dum bullets at that. He was throwing them surreptitiously away when Botha asked him what he had in his hand.

"What is it?" asked Churchill innocently. "I picked it up." Botha flung the bullets away. By now it had come on to rain, and there was probably not a more miserable man in the world than the future Prime Minister of Britain as he moodily marched at the stirrup of the future Prime Minister of South Africa.

Churchill consoled himself with the thought that even Napoleon had once laid it down that surrender may be pardoned "when one is alone and unarmed."

## Marched Away

**H**E could not see what more he could have done.

But, as he marched away to the prison camp at Pretoria, the biscuit he munched was wormwood and the dreary rain was gall.

Looking at it now, anyone can see that this misfortune was in fact an important and influential step in the Churchill story.

For a start he might with justice have been taken by the Boers and put before a firing squad.

Although he had not fired a shot he had done enough at the train to merit execution as a civilian not protected by military law.

No wonder he now says of the Boers: "They were the most good-hearted enemy I have ever fought against in the four continents in which it has been my fortune to see active service."

## "Deserved VC"

**S**ECONDLY, his gallantry at the train, reported in glowing terms by all who returned safely on the engine, made him a hero.

It is the considered opinion of many officers that if Churchill had been a soldier he would have received the VC for his work that day.

But these considerations weighed for nothing with Churchill as he marched behind the wire.

With that supreme assurance which had marked his early days he stormed at the Boers and protested that he was a civilian.

He insisted, in the face of normal military law, that so far from being shot it was even wrong to imprison him.

He demanded to be released. But he spent his 25th birthday in prison.

## STANDARD BRIDGE

Dealer: South. Game all.

N. 10 6 4  
S. 9 5 3  
W. 7 6  
E. 8 7  
N. 7 5  
S. 6 3  
W. 4 2  
E. 3 2  
N. 10 6 4  
S. 9 5 3  
W. 7 6  
E. 8 7  
N. 7 5  
S. 6 3  
W. 4 2  
E. 3 2

The bidding of this hand from match play was the same in both rooms. South opened One Spade and West bid Two Hearts; North had all the requirements for a raise to Three Spades and South bid game.

In Room 1 South ruffed the second Heart lead, drew trumps and led a Club to Q, assuming from West's overcall that he held A. East wisely played low, and J was then led from dummy, losing to West's K. Two Club tricks had to be lost and South was one down.

The other declarer led 4 from his own hand at trick 5. West won, but dummy's two small Clubs could now be discarded on A and Q. If East happened to win with K, it would be a moral certainty that West held A and South could still make 10 tricks.—M. Harrison-Gray.

London Express Service.



"Enjoy yourself, dear?"

## FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

# Britain's Problems In Shortage Of Commodities

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

London, Dec. 17.

Since Premier Attlee came back from Washington there has been speculation on the passage in his communique dealing with supplies of raw materials.

Looked at from Britain's viewpoint there are two separate problems: one is the price which particularly affects materials such as rubber and tin which the United States is stockpiling, and the other is the actual supplies.

As Mr Attlee remarked in the Commons debate this week, the most urgent of commodities actually in short supply for industry are sulphur and zinc. The announcement made on Friday concerning immediate measures for allocating zinc by the United Kingdom Government and the United States plan for allocating sulphur supplies both at home and abroad does not clear up doubts and confusions.

In the first place, solution of the zinc shortage will immediately place copper in short supply for brass foundries.

On questions of price of raw materials, nothing has been effected. The first expectation was the prospect of commodity boards—particularly for items such as tin, rubber and wool also being sought by the USSR. But such a scheme is not possible to develop in peace time, it is recognised.

However, rubber and tin are regarded by some commentators here as bright spots in the dark commodity picture. Supplies next year of both Malaya's principal products should be adequate—perhaps more than adequate. Rubber price rises are estimated by these optimists to be mainly caused by United States stockpiling and temporary lack of spot supplies. Resuscitation of the American synthetic rubber industry is expected to balance up supply and demand—even including the raised stockpiling programme—and in the event there is bound to be a sharp decline in prices. There may be even a slight reduction in United Kingdom rubber consumption, due to the shortage of sulphur for vulcanising.

## CAUGHT UNAWARES

The general picture is that commodity shortages have caught the United Kingdom Government unawares. The Economist newspaper today publishes a list of stocks in the United Kingdom of 18 basic industrial raw materials giving comparison with the previous year. With the exception of

lead and cement this table indicates that Britain has lower stocks, to the extent between 10 and 20 percent in 16 of these vital supplies.

As a result of these conditions, British industry is displaying an understandable state of bad nerves. Probably fears of unemployment in Lancashire are uncalled for, but British industry is so closely interlocked and can be so easily paralysed by a shortage of such items as industrial alcohol or copper that fears are vivid.

Over all hangs the possibility of a fuel breakdown as coal stocks are 3,000,000 tons below last year's 19,000,000 figure and this may be a hard winter.

## STOCK MARKETS

The Stock markets appear to have thrown off the worst of their Korean nerves this week. Improved war news and the Attlee-Truman communique had a rallying effect, although the first reaction to the announcement of the termination of Britain's Marshall Aid made a temporary setback. However, there was further consideration of the strengthened economic situation revealed by the decision, and towards the end of the week a marked move into equities developed—perhaps as a hedge against inflation.

The Roan Antelope Copper Company seems to have changed its mind about moving its headquarters from London to Rhodesia. Its chairman, A. R. Prain, explained that if tax reduction were the only consideration, control of the company would certainly be transferred abroad, but to enable shareholders to be no worse off—he was referring to United Kingdom corporate shareholders—as a result of the company's move, it would be necessary to pay materially increased dividends.

The advantage of the move would also be decreased if the disparity in tax rates were less in future. Moreover, profits might not continue so high as to make the move valuable.





# PEKING ATTITUDE STIFFENING

## American Reaction: Adamant Opposition To Compromise

### Chances Of Peace Settlement Getting More Remote

Lake Success, Dec. 17.

The Chinese Communists and American attitudes towards the Korean cease-fire proposals are believed here to have stiffened in the last few days.

Many observers regarded the chances of a compromise as more remote than ever.

Yesterday's statement by General Wu Hsiuchuan, the leader of the Peking delegation, coupled with his threatened departure on Tuesday, left United Nations delegates and officials with little hope of a peaceful settlement on the Chinese side.

The Chinese terms for such a settlement were made quite clear by General Wu. They were: (1) representation in the United Nations for the Peking Government; (2) the withdrawal of American support for the Chinese Nationalists in Formosa; (3) the withdrawal of all United Nations forces from Korea.

The last point appeared to diplomats here to be the one on which the Chinese attitude has stiffened. Until a few days ago it seemed that the Peking Government might compromise on some established demarcation line and a stage-by-stage withdrawal of foreign forces.

Informed sources made it clear that the United States attitude had equally stiffened, both on the military and the diplomatic fronts.

Whether or not the United Nations forces in Korea were pushed into the sea, the American Administration was now regarded as adamantly opposed to any compromise on Formosa or United Nations membership "at the point of a gun."

Any such approach, American circles stated privately, would mean giving the Peking Government the "fruits of aggression."

#### WU'S PROMISE

General Wu's promise to "advise" the Chinese volunteers to withdraw if those demands on the Formosan and membership issues were met was regarded in American circles as a cynical offer. In effect it meant that if the Peking Government obtained these aims by diplomatic manoeuvre it could freely withdraw its "volunteers" and still emerge the victor, American observers held.

The United Nations Political Committee will meet tomorrow to decide whether to continue debating various Asian questions or to await further moves in an attempt to arrange a cease-fire.

The three-man Cease-Fire Committee will present to the Political Committee an interim report, the gist of which is understood to be that nothing has been accomplished and no co-operation has been found on the Peking side.

But the Political Committee may still decide to encourage the Cease-Fire Committee to continue its efforts.—Reuter.

#### Polish Protest To France

London, Dec. 17.

Poland has sent a note to France protesting against the dissolution of the Polish Football Union in France, Warsaw Radio said tonight.

The Radio said that, according to the note, the Polish sportsmen had been threatened with loss of work in the State mines if they refused to resign from the club.—Reuter.

## BITTER WEATHER IN EUROPE

London, Dec. 17.

Most of North-Western Europe lay under a fresh blanket of snow tonight.

Intense wintry conditions which struck Britain and parts of the Continent last Thursday night continued today with fresh snow storms and freezing temperatures.

Snow fell in most parts of France today, including Paris. It was several feet high in the Pas de Calais Department.

In Holland, after an overnight thaw, snow covered most of the country again this afternoon with temperatures around freezing-point. Weather experts predicted a severe winter.

Most of Southern and Western Germany had snow last night. Roads were crowded with people going out for winter sports and scores of cars were stalled on ice-covered surfaces.

Shivering Britons learned today that the icy weather—which has already been considered to be the worst winter in four years—was easing. But Londoners again watched clouds of snow billowing outside their windows.

Exports estimate that from midnight until daybreak about 10,000,000 tons of snow dropped on London.

On the Channel coast three men were missing in a small boat. They were believed to be members of the crew of a British cargo ship sheltering in Falmouth Bay who took one of the ship's boats last night to try to get ashore.—Reuter.

## Schuman Plan Jeopardised

Paris, Dec. 17.

The six-nation conference on the Schuman coal and steel merger plan adjourned today until January, M. Jean Monnet, the head of the French delegation, announced.

A month ago hopes were held out by the French delegation that the pool treaty would be initiated at the beginning of December and finally approved and signed by the six Foreign Ministers this month. International events were believed in conference circles to have influenced certain Governments to mark time and see how the rearmament programme of the Western nations is likely to affect the position.—Reuter.

## Diplomatic Effort To Make Truce

(Continued from Page 1)

This is how the argument ran:

The cease-fire proposal, as it now stands, was enthusiastically supported by 54 nations—the entire United Nations, except the five Soviet countries and Nationalist China.

The vote was actually greater than the original support to the police action in Korea.

From the point of view of those countries that have always favoured simultaneous consideration of political and military questions relating to Korea, compulsory negotiations with Peking direct might help a solution rather than retard it.

Hitherto, some of the members of the Cease-Fire Commission had firmly discounted any suggestions of their going to Peking.

In his speech yesterday, General Wu indicated the conditions on which peace in the Far East, including withdrawal of "volunteers" from Korea, was possible and in this he gave priority to Peking's United Nations membership and "major voice" in Asia.

This meant, according to competent observers, that if a cease-fire issue was taken up direct with Peking by the United Nations, as they would now have to do, the main political question raised by China would also have to be considered, if not decided simultaneously, as Communist China would not discuss any major problems except on a basis of equality.

#### REAL SNAG

The real snag, therefore, is whether the United States would agree and whether the necessary seven-member majority would be available in the Security Council to admit New China.

In the opinion of Sir Benegal Narsing Rau, the leading spirit behind the original truce idea, General Wu's speech need not give rise to the degree of pessimism that has generally been evinced.

He thinks that General Wu still has left the door open for discussion.

The meeting that Sir Benegal expects to have with General Wu before the Cease-fire Commission reports back to the Political Committee tomorrow would further clarify the situation.

Unless means are found of keeping General Wu in New York, the cease-fire talks will become transferred at once to Peking. It is known that all avenues of contacts with Peking are being explored, and the possibility of United Nations representatives going to Peking are said to be studied.

Meanwhile, one thing revealed about yesterday's press conference was that General Wu had specifically requested Mr Trygve Lie that the conference be arranged in the Security Council chamber. General Wu then sat in the Presidential chair, the seat presently occupied by Dr. T. T. Tsiang, the



Monte, a one-month-old quarterhorse, was the youngest entrant in the Arizona State Fair, held at Phoenix. Nolys Jamieson, left, and Mary Lou Barrett were designated special attendants for the little stallion.

## Stassen's Letter To Stalin

Karachi, Dec. 17.

Mr Harold Stassen said today that if Marshal Stalin wanted world peace he would reply to a letter addressed to him eight weeks ago.

Mr Stassen was answering a question at a press conference in Karachi, which he is visiting at present on his study tour of Asia.

He said he had not yet received a reply from Stalin, but, "I believe if Marshal Stalin desires to move towards world peace, I will have an answer."

He said he still might receive an answer, "as the Kremlin moves slowly in these matters". He said he was learning many things on his tour "which will help me in developing Republic policy and American policy for the future." He acknowledged the need of "immediate" attention to Asia's problems of technical service and economic assistance.—United Press.

## Aluminium From Canada

London, Dec. 17.

The Ministry of Supply announced today arrangements for increased supplies of aluminium from Canada—sufficient, it was stated, to provide for rising defence requirements.—Reuter.

President of the Security Council for December, and the seat General Wu wants assigned to the People's Republic of China. Thus General Wu was regarded as having given a broad hint that that seat was the key to the present troubles of the United Nations.—Reuter.

## Togliatti Goes For A Rest

Rome, Dec. 17.

The Italian Communist leader, Palmiro Togliatti, left by train for Moscow today for a "long rest". The ailing 57-year-old Togliatti was accompanied by his physician, Dr. Mario Spallini, his 10-year-old adopted daughter and the attractive woman Communist deputy, Leonila Jotti.—United Press.

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## NOTICE

### POST-HERALD

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